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NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 1865.

PRICE FOUR CENTS.

THE PEACE MISSION.

Special Report of President Lincoln to Congress on the Hampton Roads Conference.

All the Facts, Letters and Telegrams on the Subject.

SHARP PRACTICE OF THE REBEL AGENTS

How They Smuggled Themselves Through Our Lines.

MR. LINCOLN SOUND ON THE MISSION

THE PRESIDENT'S THREE POINTS.

Admission of the Rebel Agents in Favor of Reunion.

MR. SEWARD'S MEMORANDA

His Circular Letter to Our Minister in London.

ADDITIONAL REBEL ACCOUNTS.

JEFF. DAVIS ON PEACE.

Another and Fuller Report of

His Speech,

dent Lincoln's Account of the Peace

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10, 1865. AND THE HOUSE OF REPRES on in relation to a conference rec day of the date I gave Francis P. Blair, Sr., a eard, writ-ten en as follows, to wit:— Allow the bearer, F. P. Blair, Sr., to pass our lines, go

he card as a means of getting to Richmond, Virginia; but he was given no authority to speak or act for the severnment, nor was I informed of anything he would or do on his own account or otherwise. Mr. Blai i me that he had been to Richmond, and had seen Mr. son Davis, and he (Mr. Blair) at the same time left th me a manuscript letter, as follows, to wit:-

med it proper, and probably des to give you in this form the substance of the remarks

am willing now, as heretofore, to enter into negot

esition to find obstacles in forms, and

meon to suppose it will be received, or to receive a com-mission if the United States government shall choose to

uld, if you could promise that a commissioner, ference with a view to secure peace to the two countries

Afterwards, with the view that it should be shown to Mr. Davis, I wrote and delivered to Mr. Blair a letter as

-Your having shown me Mr. Davis' letter to you of the 12th inst., you may say to him that I have constantly been, am now, and shall continue ready to recaive any agent whom he or any other influential person

me with a view of securing peace to the people of our con better last above recited, which is as follows:—

JANUARY 28, 1865.

To-day Mr. Blair tells me that on the 21st inst, he de Evered to Mr. Davis the original, of which the within is ing Mr. Davis read it over twice in Mr. Blair's presence, at the close of which he (Mr. B.) remarked that the part about our one common country related to the part of Mr. Davis' letter about the two countries, to which Mr. Davis replied that he so understood it.

A. LINCOLN. that he so understood 4. A. LINCOLN. erwards the Secretary of War placed in my hand

o following telegram, endorsed by him, as appears:—
OFFICE UNITED STATES MILITARY TELEGRAPH, WAR DEPARTMENT.

[Oipher.] The following telegrams were received at Washington January 29, 1805:-FROM HEADQUARTERS,
ARMY OF THE JAMES, JAM. 29-6:30 P. M.

Hen. E. M. STARTON, Secretary of War:— The following despatch is just received from Major General Parke, who refers it to me for my action. 1 for it to you in view of General Grant's absence.

E. O. C. ORD, Major General Commanding HEADQUARTERS, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Jan. 29-4 P. M. Major General E. O. C. ORD, Headquarters of the Army

The following despatch is forwarded to you for your action. Since I have no knowledge of General Grant's having had any understanding of this kind I refer the

JOHN G. PARKE, Major General Commanding. PROM HEADQUARTERS, NINTH ARMY CORPS, Jan. 29, 1865. Major General Joun G. PARKE, Headquarters, Army of the

Alexander H. Stephens, R. M. T. Hunter and J. mpbell desire to cross my lines, in accordance with an derstanding claimed to exist with Lieutenant General Grant, on their way to Washington as peace commis-sioners. Shall they be admitted? They desire an early saswer, so as to come through immediately. They

O. B. WILSON, Major Commanding Ninth Corpo Respectfully referred to the President for such instruc

ons as he may be pleased to give.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

It appears that about the time of placing the foregoing stegram in my hands, the Secretary of War despatched eneral Ord as follows, to wit:—

WAR DEPARTMENT, WARRINGTON CITY, Jan. 29-10 P. M.

his lines as commissioners of any sort. You will there fore allow no one to come into your lines under such ons, to whom your telegrams will be submitted

WARRINGTON CITY, Jan. 30—10 A. M.) oral E. O. C. Ord, Headquarters of the Army

of the James:—
By direction of the President, you are instruc form the three gentlemen—Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell—that a messenger will be despatched to them, at or near where they now are, without unnecessary delay EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

Afterwards I prepared and put into the hands of Major Thomas T. Eckert the following instructions and mes-

Siz.—You will proceed, with the documents placed in your hands, and on reaching General Ord will deliver him the letter addressed him by the Secretary of War. Then, by General Ord's assistance, procure an interview with Messrs. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell, or any of them. Deliver to him or them the paper on which your own letter is written. Note on the felivered. Beceive their answer in writing, waiting a reasonable time for it, and which, if it contain their derision to come through without further conditions, ne your warrant to sek General Ord to pass them thr their answer they decline to come, or propose other terms, do not have them passed through; and this being your

A. LINCOLN.

United States to place this paper in your hands, with the information that if you page through the United States military lines, it will be understood that you do so for ing, and so notify me in writing, I will procure the Com-manding General to pass you through the lines and to may deem prudent, and at which place you will be met in due time by some person or persons for the purpose of such informal conference; and, further, that you shall have protection, sufe conduct and safe return, in all THOS. T. ECKERT, Major and Aid-de-Camp.

SIR-Your having shown me Mr. Davis' letter to you on the 12th inst., you may say to him that I have con stantly been, am now, and shall continue, ready to re-ceive any agent whom he or any other influential person, to me with the view of scouring peace to the people of our common country. Yours, &c. A. LINCOLN.

Afterwards, but before Major Eckert had departed, the following despatch was received from General Grant:

OFFICE UNITED STATES MILITARY TREAGRAPH, \(\)
WAR DEPARTMENT.

uary 31, 1865, from City Point, Va., at half-past ten A. M.

and to proceed to Washington, to hold a conference with President Lincoln upon the subject of the existing war, nt, and to confer with to see you in person, if conveni

R. M. T. HUNTER.

I have sent directions to receive these gentlemen, and expect to have them at my quarters this evening, await-

U. S. GRANT, Lieutenant General, Commanding Armies of the United States.

This, it will be perceived, transferred General Ord's agency in the matter to General Grant. I resolved, howand accordingly telegraphed General Grant as follows,

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1865. Lieutenant General GRANT, City Point, Va :-

A messenger is coming to you on the businesse con-tained in your despatch. Detain the gentlemen in com-fortable quarters until he arrives, and then act upon the message he brings, as far as applicable, it having been made up to pass through General Ord's hands, and when the gentlemen were supposed to be beyond our lines.

[Sent in cipher at half-past one P. M.] When Major Eckert-departed he bore with him a letter of the Secretary of War to General Grant as follows, to

Lieutenant General GRANT, commanding, &c. :—
GENERAL—The President desires that you will pleas procure for the bearer, Major Thomas F. Eckert, an in terview with Messra. Stephens, Hunter and Campbell and if, on his return to you, he requests it, pass then under such military precautions as you may deem pru-dent, giving them protection and comfortable quarters while there, and that you let none of this have any effect upon your movements or plans.
By order of the President.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War Supposing the proper point to be then reached, I des patched the Secretary of State with the following instructions, Major Eckert, however, going ahead of him:-

WASHINGTON, Jan. 31, 1865. Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State:-You will proceed to Fortress Monroe, Va., there to meet and informally confer with Messra. Stephens Hunter and Campbell on the baris of my letter to F. P. Blair, Ecq., of January 18, 1865, a copy of which you have. You will make known to them that three things

are indispensable, to wit:--First-The restoration of the national authority through Second-No receding by the Executive of the United States on the slavery question from the position assumed thereon in the late annual message to Congress and in

the proceding documents. Third-No cessation of hostilities short of an end of the war, and the disbanding of all the forces hostile to

You will inform them that all propositions of their not inconsistent with the above will be considered and passed upon in a spirit of timere liberality. You will hear all they may choose to say, and report it to me. You will not assume to definitely consummate anything.

WAR DEFARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 1865.]
Lieutenant General Grant, City Point, Va.:— Let nothing which is transpiring change, hinder or delay your military movements or plans.

[Sent in cipher at half-past nine A. M.] Afterwards the following desputch was received fr General Grant:-

OFFICE UNITED STATES MILITARY TRLEGRAPH, WAR DEPARTMENT.

Tour despace receives of Mr. Stephens and others consequence of the presence of Mr. Stephens and others within our lines. The troops are kept in readiness to move at the shortest notice, if occasion should justify it.

U. S. GRANT, Lieutenant General.

city Major Eckert that the Secretary of State would be at Fortress Monroe, and to put them in commu-nication, the following despatch was sent:— WAR DEPARTMENT, WARRINGTON, Feb. 1, 1865. Major T. T. ECKERT, care of General Grant, City Point,

were received by me respectively from the Second State and Major Eckert:—
FORTERS MOSROS, Va., Feb. 1—11:80 I

FORTERS MORROS, Va., Feb. 1—11:80 P. M. CITY POINT, Va., Feb. 1-10 P. M.

munication and my letter at quarter past four this after-noon, to which I received a reply at six P. M., but not

ory. At eight P. M. the following note, ad-Six-We desire to go to Washington city to

formally with the President personally in reference the matters mentioned in his letter to Mr. Blair of U the matters mentioned in his letter to Mr. Blair of 18th of January skimo. Without any personal com mise on any question in the letter, we have the per-sion to do so from the authorities at Richmond. ALEX. H. STEPHENS. respectfully, yours, J. A. CAMPBELL.

At half-past nine P. M. I notified them that they o d further, unless they complied with the term sed in my letter. The point of meeting designated in the above note would not, in my opinion, be in ing complied with my instructions, I will return to Wash

THOMAS T. ECKERT, Major, &c. On reading this despatch of Major Eckert, I was about to recall him and the Secretary of State, when the following telegram of General Grant to the Secretary of Was

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES MILITARY THEREPARTHER,

five minutes past four o'clock A. M., February 2, 1865 from City Point, Va., February 1, half-past ten P. M.

his written instructions, and Mr. Stephens and party, has their going back, without any expression to any one in authority, will have a bad influence. At the same time I recognize the difficulties in the way of receiving thes Lincoln cannot have an interview with the two named in this despatch, if not all three now within our lines. Their letter to me was all that the President's instruc-

tions contemplated to secure their safe conduct if the had used the same language to Major Eckert. U. S. GRANT, Lieutenant General. This despatch of General Grant changed my purpose and accordingly I telegraphed him and the Se State as follows:—

Lieutenant General GRAWT, City Point, Va.:-Say to the gentlemen that I will meet them per

A. LINCOLN. Sent in cipher at nine o'clock A. M. WAR DEPARTMENT, WASHINGTON, Feb. 2, 1865.

Hon. Wm. H. Shward, Fortress Monroe, Va.:—
Induced by a despatch from General Grant, I join you at Fortress Monroe as soon as I can come.

Sent in cipher at nine o'clock A. M.

Before starting, the following despatch was shown me OFFICE UNITED STATES MELITARY TRANSPRAPE, WAR DEPARTMENT.

The following telegram received at Washington February 2, 1865, from City Point, Va., nine A. M., February

Hon. WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State, Fortres The gentlemen here have accepted the proposed terms

and will leave for Fortress Monroe at half-past nine A. M

U. S. GRANT, Lieutenant General On the night of the 2d, I reached Hampton Roads anchored off the shore, and learned of them that th Richmond gentlemen were on another steamer, also of State had not yet seen or communicated with them. I ascertained that Major Eckert had literally complled swer of the Richmond gentlemen to him, which, in his despatch to me of the 1st, he characterizes as not satisfactory. That answer is as follows, to wit:-

THOMAS J. ECKERT, Major and Ald-de-Camp: -MAJOR—Your note, delivered by yourself this day, has been considered. In reply we have to say that we were to Francis P. Blair of the 18th of January ult., another copy of which is appended to your note. Our intentions are contained in a letter of which the following is a

CITY POINT, Va., Feb. 1, 1865.

In conformity with the letter of Mr. Lincoln, of which the foregoing is a copy, you are to pro-ceed to Washington city for informal confer-ence with him upon the issues involved in the existing war, and for the purpose of securing peace to the two JEFFERSON DAVIS

ference is to ascertain upon what terms the existing war can be terminated honorably. Our instructions con-template a personal interview between President Lincoln and ourselves at Washington; but, with this explan we are ready to meet any person or persons that President Lincoln may appoint, at such place as he may designate. Our earnest desire is that a just and hor ble peace may be agreed upon, and we are prepared to receive or to submit propositions which may possibly lead to the attainment of that end. Very respectfully, yours,

ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS. JOHN A. CAMPBELL

A note of these gentlemen, subsequently addr. General Grant, has already been given in Major Eckert's despatch of the lat met. I also saw here for the first time the following note addressed by the Richmond gen

tlemen to Major Eckert:--CITY POINT, Va., Feb. 2, 1865. THOMAS T. ECKERT, Hajor and Aid-de-Camp:—
MAJOR—In reply to your verbal statement that your instructions did not allow you to alter the conditions

we are willing to proceed to Fortrees Monroe, and ther to have an informal conference with any person or persons that President Lincoln may appoint on the basis of his better to Francis P. Bierr, of the 18th of January ultime, or upon any other terms or

erchange of ideas and information, upon what prin-ies and terms, if any, a just and honorable peace can selves to anything, but to carry into this informance, the views and feelings above expressed. ence, the views and feelings above expressed. Very respectfully, yours &c., ALEXANDER H. STEPHENS. J. A. CAMPBELL

not said that in any event or on any condition would they over concent to reunion; and yet they equally omitted to declare that they would so concent some of them seemed to argue, might or might not lead to reunion, but which course we thought would amount to an indefinite postponement. The conference ended

ABRAHAM LINCOLN. The following was enclosed in the m

MR. SEWARD'S MEMORANDA. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Feb. 10, 1865.

lation of the Senate of the 8th inst., requesting the President of the United States, if in his opinion it is not in and any correspondence relating thereto, has the honor to report that the Senate may properly be re-ferred to a special message of the President bearing upon the subject of the resolution, and transmitted to the House this day. Appended to this report is a copy of the instructions which have been addressed to Charles Francis Adams, Esq., Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the United States at London, and which is the only correspondence found in this department touching the subject referred found in this department touching submitted.
to in the resolution. Respectfully submitted.
WM. H. SEWARD.

MR. SEWARD TO MR. ADAMS. DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON, Feb. 9, 1865. Siz—It is a truism that in times of peace there are always instigations of war; so soon as a war begins, there are for peace in time of war, are not necessarily, or, per-Results alone determine whether they are wise or un-wise. The treaty of peace concluded at Guadeliupe Hidalgo was secured by an irregular negotiation under the

about negotiations with a view to end our civil war are known to the whole world, because they have employed foreign as well as domestic agents. Others with whom you have had to deal confidentially are known to yourself, although they have not publicly transpired. Other persons actually moving to them and to this government. I am now to give for your information an account of an affair of the same general character which recently re-

excite inquiry abroad.

A few days ago, Francis P. Blair, Esq., of
Maryland, obtained from the President a simple
leave to pass through our lines without definite views
known to the government. Mr. Blair visited Richmond, which Jefferson Davis had written to Mr. Blair, in which dent Lincoln that Davis was now, as he always had been willing to send commissioners, if assured they would be received, or to receive any that should be sent; that he was not disposed to find obstacles in forms; that he would send commissioners to confer with the President with a view to a restoration of peace between the two sections, if he could be assured they would be received. addressed a note to Mr. Blair, in which the President, after acknowledging that he had read the note of Mr. Davis, said that he was, is, and always should be willing to receive any agents that Mr. Davis, or any other influential man now actually resisting the authority of the government, might send to confer informally with the President with a view to the restoration of peace to the people of our commo

Mr Blair visited Richmond with this letter and ther again came back to Washington.

On the 29th ult we were advised from the camp of Lieutenant General Grant that Alexander H. Stephens, R. M. T. Hunter and John A. Campbell were applying for eave to pass through the lines to Washingto commissioners to confer with the President. They were permitted by the Lieutenant General to come to his head quarters, to await there the decision of the President. Major Eckert was sent down to meet the party from Major was directed to deliver to them a copy of the President's letter to Mr. Blair, with a note to be addressed to them, and signed by the Major, in which they were directly informed that they would be allowed to pass our lines if understood as coming for an informal conference upon the basis of the aforenamed letter of Fabort was directed to give them safe conduct to Fortres Monroe, where a person coming from the President would meet them. It being thought probable, from a re-port of their conversation with Lieutenant General Grant, that the Richmond party would, in the manner prescribed, accept the condition mentioned, the Secretary of State was charged by the President with the duty of representing this government in the expected informal conference. The Secretary arrived at Fortress Monroe conference. The Secretary arrived at Fortress Monroe in the night of the 1st day of February. Major Eckert met him on the morning of the 2d of Pebruary with the information that the persons who had come from Richmond had not accepted in writing the condition upon which he was allowed to give them conduct to Fortress Monroe. The Major had given the same infor mation by telegraph to the President at Washington. On receiving this information the President prepared a telegram directing the Secretary to return to Washington. The Secretary was preparing at the same moment to so return, without waiting for information from the President, but at this juncture Lieutenaut General Grant telegraphed to the Secretary of War, as well as to the Secretary of State, that the party from Richmond had reconsidered and accepted the condition tendered them through Major Eckert, and General Grant urgently advised the President to confer in person with the Rich-mond party. Under these circumstances the Secretary, by the President's direction, remained at Fortress Mon-

the 2d of February. The Richmond party was brought

egorical demands or tender formal stipulations or ab-ate refusals. Nevertheless, during the conference, ich lasted four hours, the several points at both sections be resumed. It was suggested by them that through such postponement we might now have immediate peace, with some not very certain prospect of an ultimate satisfactory adjustment of political relations between the government and the States, section or people, now engaged in conflict with it. The suggestion, though deliberately considered, was, nevertheless, regarded by the President as one of armistice or truce, and he announced that we can agree to no cessauments, as these positions were reiterated in his anthat the complete restoration of the national authority everywhere was an indispensable condition of any assen liberality. Its power, however, is limited by the consti-tution, and, when peace should be made, Congress must necessarily act in regard to appropriations of money and

gress had, on the 81st ult., adopted by a constitutiona majority a joint resolution submitting to the several States the proposition to abolish slavery throughout the Union, and that there is every reason to expect that it will be accepted by three-fourths of the States, so as to

cence, without producing an agreement of views upon the several matters discussed, or any of them. Neverthe-less, it is perhaps of some importance that we have been able to submit our opinions and views directly to promi

I am, sir, your obodient servant,
WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

Our Special Washington Despatch.

ectation of the reception of the President' nessage in reference to the recent peace negotiations itracted a good attendance in the galleries of the House to-day. It was received about twenty minutes past one o'clock, and the House immediately postponed all other business to hear it read. During the reading there were occasional manifestations of applause, both on the floor and in the galleries, particularly at the points where the the idea of a united country. These were promptly sup-pressed by the Speaker, and with these exceptions the reading was listened to in the most profound allence.

of "good, good." Mr. Brooks, of New York, alone attempted to stem the tide, and in an hour's speech argued the case on the side of the rebels, and favoring and urging the granting of an armistica. He was frequently ining of the House and of nearly all present was so en-tirely in opposition to the sentiment and tone of his re-marks that it was hand work on his part to keep up to the requirements of the part he had assumed. Hon.
Thadeus Stevens demolished him, in a speech of about
ten minutes' length, so completely that it
was generally felt that further discussion was useless. Mr. Brooks evidently appreciated the severity of the scoring which he received, of which a mere report of the language, without the expressive man-ner and force of gesticulation which characterizes Mr.

It is evident, from careful consideration of the President's report, that the position taken in this correspond-ence, that when the parties separated in Hampton Roads it was not considered that the affair was then definitely it was not considered that the affair was then definitely terminated, or that further negotiation was unexpected, is fully sustained. This also appears from the tenor of the message submitted by Mr. Davis to the rebei Congress on Monday last. The despatch of General Grant to the President, which finally induced him to first send Mr. Seward and subsequently go himself to meet them, proves that with regard to two at least of the delegation there was reason to expect that they were prepared to consider terms of reunion. It must be noticed that neither the President nor the rehal commissioners give us any details of the hours of convermore prominent features which are reported. There is no doubt but that there was reason on both sides

grow out of this preliminary meeting.

The tone of public sentiment at Richmond, however, and Mr. Davis has done with the current; and even Mr. Stephens does not feel strong enough to oppose any furshall have again subdued the artfully excited passions of the people to a more pacific level.

REBEL ACCOUNTS.

HIS SPEECH AT THE RICHMOND MASS MEETING IN FULL.

of the rebei President at the mass meeting, on the 6th inst., of which we have given a brief and unsatisfactory report. We give the speech in full. The Scatinel says: report. We give the speech in full. The Sentinel says:—
His Excellency, the President of the Confederate
States, being on the stand, was loudly called for and
went to the front. His appearance was the signal for
prolonged and enthusiastic cheering. Round after round
of cheers went up from all parts of the building, and
every vocal energy of the wast assembly seemed taxed to
its utmost is swelling the tremendous acclamations. The
President meantime gracefully bowed his thanks to the
different parts of the audience, and after the inspiring
outburst of sympathy and enthusiasts had at length subsided he proceeded to address the assembly. We pretend
to no more than to give the substance of some of his
remarks.

outburst of sympathy and enthusiasm had at length subsided he proceeded to address the assembly. We pretend to no more than to give the substance of some of his remarks.

The President said that if he were there to assist in celebrating some great and decisive victory to our arms, or in halling the establishment of peace, he should have been most happy. But, in times like these which are now upon un—when dangers confront us and our path is beside the lee-shore and the breakers—to witness the manifestation of such a spirit on the part of his countrymen as was there displayed, was more than happinoss—it was cestatic joy. He had always looked with pride upon his countrymen. He had rejeled in their patrictian and their courage. But he was prouder still when he contemplated the fortitude which placks flowers from reverses, and beats high with hope in the presence of fresh calls uponitize courage and endurance.

The President said it was meet that the spirit which haspired this meeting should do its first utterance in Richmond. Here every day were heard the cannons of the enemy. Innumerable hillocks in the neighboring cemeteries tell of the brave men from every State in the confederacy who have given their lives for ther country. On one of the hills of this city stands that shere country. On one of the hills of this city stands that shere country on one of the hills of this city stands that shere defining in which Patrick Henry and his compatrious pledged like for tiberty. Here, too, was the capital of the confederacy, and of that proud old State which had been truly termed the "mother of statesmen." If the spirit which has been have indicated shall meet with a seneral response. and

back to them as we came out, but are required to take just what a conqueror may choose to give the conquered.

Man proposes, but God disposes. Relying on the courage and devotion of his countrymen and reverently appealing to Heaven for its aid to our cause, the President said his confidence was firm, that God would abase the arrogance of our enemies, and crown our exertions with triumph.

President Lincoln had, indeed, promised, that in the enforcement of his laws for the confiscation of our property and the hanging of our officers, his policy would be "liberal." (Laughter.) Beecher, in a late sermon at Washington, had pictured a long line of robels on their way to the gallows; and President Lincoln's heart had, perhaps, softened at the length of the procession. The leaders whem they propose to hang are your servants, and they are not worthy to be your servants, the President said unless they were willing to be sacrificed in your cause, even unto death. (Applause.)

If the power of the enemy were ten times greater and ours ten times less than it is, there are still some rights of which they could not disposses us—the right to maintain our personal honor, and the right to fill an honorable grave. (Loud applause.) If faithul to this end we shall stand proud among the prondest of earth. Never before have any people remained so closely united in so long a war. Never before have a country's best citizens composed its armise. Our Revolutionary forefathers were not united in a concord so perfect as ours—though it is true they had less pressure upon them, the British rulers being more humane than those of our present one-mies, and their generals belonging to a school that recognized the amenities of war. History affords no parallel, the President continued, to the struggle which our country is making—to the cheerfulness with which our people have borne sacrifices, and the courage with which our armies have marched to the harvest of death. It was this magnanimous spirit which sustained him in the confidence that we shou

and manly fortitude. Mistory will delight to dwell upon your praise.

The law and the officers of the law could not accomplish everything; there was much that could be effected only by a sound public opinion. Public opinion must make it a shame and disgrace for a man to skulk from nis duty, or to inquire not what he is able to do, but what the law will make him do. Our women must take broomsticks and drive absentees and straegiers to their duty. (Loud cheers.) We have one cause to sustain, one country to defend. He who falls on the soil of Lobisians, or sheds his blood on the soil of North Carolins or Virginia, is alike an honored martyr. The inquiry among us must be, not what service we can escape, but instead of that a generous rivalry among citizens and States which shall do most and give most to the cause. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Seward in a New Character.

[From the Richmond Dispatch, Feb. 8.]

Mr. William H. Seward demands our admiration. His

"God bless you, Hunter," and "Remember me to my old
friends in the South" are exquisits. We had supposed
that Mr. Chester, in Barnaby Rudge, was a caricatare,
but we must acq it Mr. Dickens of all exaggeration. His
polished masterplece of courseous craft and malignity
must hide its diminished head by the side of W. H.
Seward.

applause.)
The President resumed his seat amid loud and enthu

polished masterplece of courseous craft and malignity must hide its diminished head by the side of W. H. Seward.

It were worth years of ordinary sight-seeing to have witnessed that interview. We should like to see Mr. Hunter after that benediction. We should consider it a privilege to look upon the head honered by Seward's blessing. We fancy that a hale surrounds it; that a luminous shadow attends it; that troops of good angels surround the beatified man. "God bless you, Hunter," (I am in hopes of hanging you some day, old gentleman, but, in the meantime, receive my apostolical benediction.) "Remember me to my old friends in the South." Let the "old friends" call upon Mr. Hunter and receive the affectionate souvenir. Mr. Seward could hardly suppose that his friends here would ever forget him. There are monuments to his genius in a hundred thousand mounds stattered everywhere over the surface of this broad land. The flames of burning houses and cities are nightly illuminating the skies in his honer. Every breeze is laden with plaintive music, called forth by his master hand. The sheeted dead start from the bloody shrouds and wander through their old loved homes, whispering the name of Seward.

Not even Lincoln has such claims upon Confederate admiration. He has neither the heart nor the face of Seward. Born upon Southern set, he cannot altegener eradicate all impulses of humanity from his soul, and all traces of housely from his visage. Mr. Hunter has our sympathies. We would rather be cursed by any other man than blessed by Seward.

The Navy.

ARRIVAL OF THE MINNESOTA AT PORTSMOUTH, N. H.

The following is a list of officers of the United States steamship Minnesota, which arrived at Portsmouth, N. H., February 9, from Fort Pisher, via Hampton Roads:—

Commodere Commanding Joseph Lauman, Licutenant Commander and Breutine Officer James Arcter.

Arcter.

Liewensuls - M. S. Stuyvesant, Edwin T. Woodward.

Paymante - Charles C. Uphain.

Arcter Surge on - William S. Fort.

Captain of Marines - George Sudler.

Engineers - Acting Chief, A. K. Eddowes; First Assist

Engineers - Acting Chief, A. K. Eddowes; Sumpson and

Poston, Feb. 10, 1865.

Major Harry Gilmer, a conspicuous rebel officer and guerilla, arrived in Boston to-day, and was at once for-warded to Fort Warren. He was in charge of his captor,

FUN YOR THE SOLDERES .- Mr. Do Cordova will deliver his celebrated humorous lecture, "Mrs. Emith's Surprise Party," before the Masonic Mission, at the Cooper Institute, this evening, the entire not proceeds of which will be devoted to print the lecture and send it for reading to